READING JOURNAL

MY COMPANION TO SAMANTHA'S BOOKS

THE AMERICAN GIRLS COLLECTION®

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO:

Name: _____

Grade: _____

School: _____

Home Address: _____

_____

Save your *Reading Journal* as part of your own history. When you have children, they can see what you were thinking about when you were their age.

Draw a picture of the way you think you might have looked if you had lived in 1904.

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Books can be inspiring, exciting, sad, and heart warming. Write down or draw one of your favorite parts of the Samantha books.

Write the new words you learned in the Samantha books.

Meet Samantha

1. Many things girls like to do today were not considered proper in 1904. List some things you do today that Samantha wasn't supposed to do.

2. Samantha's doll Lydia was very special to her. Why do you think Samantha gave her favorite doll to Nellie?

3. Samantha told Grandmary she was old enough to know the truth about Nellie and Jessie. What are some things you would like adults to tell you more about?

_____

_____

_____

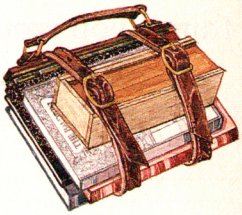
_____

_____

_____

4. Samantha's sampler said, "Actions speak louder than words." Draw the words and pictures you would embroider on a sampler of your own.

Samantha Learns a Lesson



1. Nellie used arithmetic to keep track of her money when she shopped. Give an example of something you've learned in school that you can use outside of school.

2. When Edith Eddleton saw Samantha with Nellie, she teased her about playing with a servant girl. What would you have said to Edith if you'd been there?

3. In Samantha's time, the world was changing quickly, with many new inventions and ideas. Give an example of a good change and a bad change that you see today.

Good: _____

Bad: _____

4. A word picture can give you a clue about a word's meaning. Here is an example:

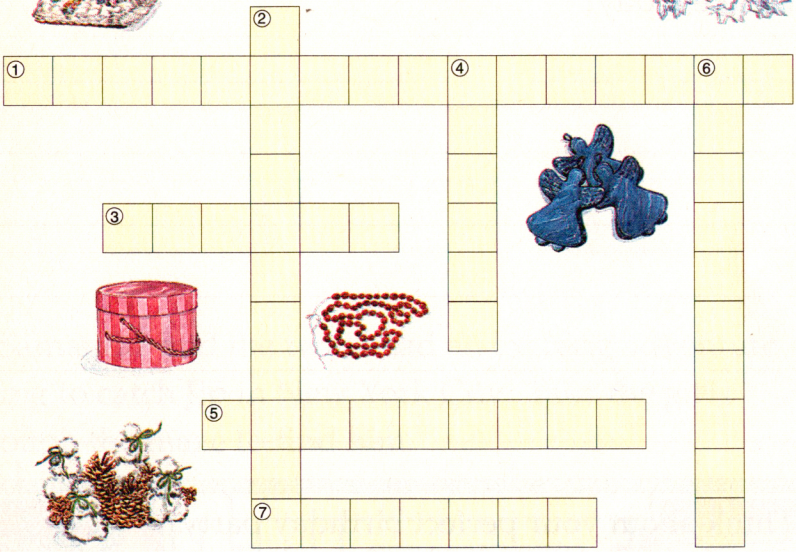
Draw some word pictures of inventions from Samantha's time to today. Here are some examples: telephone, airplane, television, gas stove, computer.

SAMANTHA'S SURPRISE

1. Samantha really wanted to take part in the holiday decorating, but the adults were all too busy to let her. Write about a time when you wanted to be helpful but weren't allowed to be.

2. Samantha wasn't happy about Cornelia's visit at first, but she changed her mind. Why?

3. Use the clues to figure out the words that complete the puzzle. The words all relate to Samantha's holiday preparations.



Across

1. Cornelia helped Samantha choose the trimmings and make a ____.
3. Samantha kept all the Christmas gifts she made in a ____.
5. Nellie helped Samantha make wreaths with ____.
7. Samantha made tiny ____ of cotton.

Down

2. Samantha strung garlands of ____ to trim the banister.
4. Jessie gave Samantha blue silk to make ____.
6. Samantha cut out fancy paper ____.

See back cover for puzzle answers.

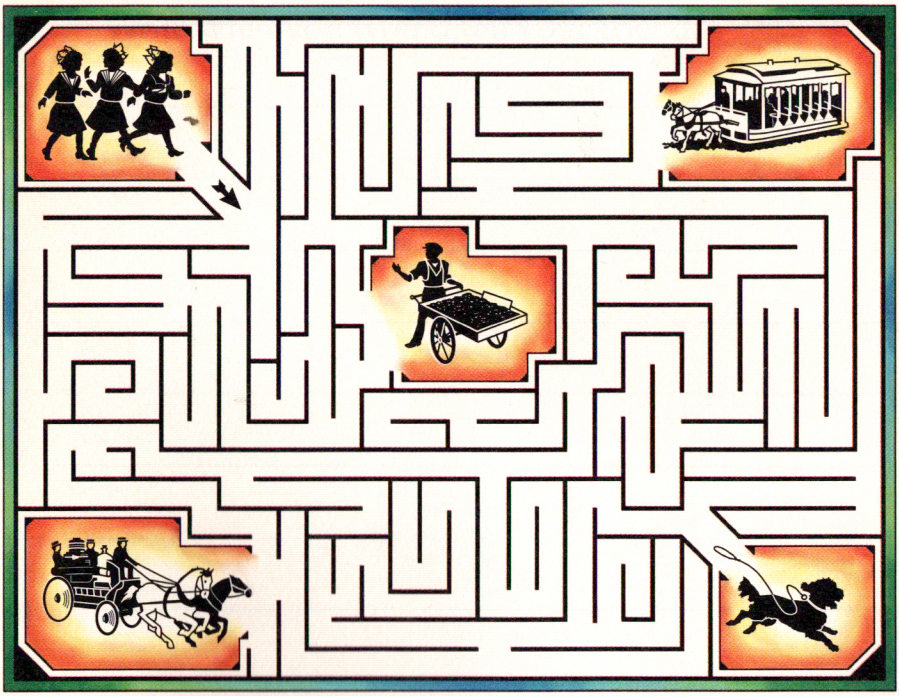
Happy Birthday, Samantha!

1. On her tenth birthday, Samantha thought she was old enough to make some decisions for herself. What are some decisions you weren't ready to make last year but can make today?

2. Think about your perfect birthday party. What would it be like?

3. Imagine that you are Eddie Ryland. Why did you put salt in the ice cream for Samantha's party?

4. Samantha and the twins had an exciting adventure trying to catch Jip in New York City. Take the girls through the maze to find him.



Samantha Saves the Day

1. It was important to Samantha to remember all she could about her parents. Describe a happy time you spent in the past with your family.

2. Samantha loved vacations at Piney Point. Draw a picture of a place you'd like to go on vacation.

3. You are with Samantha and the twins at Piney Point. There are no TVs, radios, machines to play music, or places to shop. What do you do for fun?

4. Your friend wants to know how Samantha "saves the day." Write what you would tell your friend.

Changes for Samantha

1. Some children are homeless today, like Nellie and her sisters in Samantha's time. What do you think can be done to help the homeless?

_____

_____

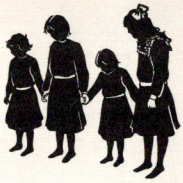
_____

_____

_____

2. Draw or paste in a valentine to Uncle Gard and Aunt Cornelia from Samantha.

3. Samantha suddenly had three new sisters. What do you think would be the good parts and bad parts of her having sisters?



Good: _____

_____

_____

Bad: _____

_____

_____

4. Your friend wants to know which Samantha book is your favorite. Which one would you tell your friend about and why?

_____

_____

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ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLE ON PAGE 9

Across	*Down*
1. gingerbread house	*2. cranberries*
3. hatbox	*4. angels*
5. pine cones	*6. snowflakes*
7. snowmen	

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